

Statement by Mayank Singh, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of India to the UN at the Closing Session of the Main Part of 74th Session of the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly (New York, 27 December 2019)

Thank you Chair,

Since this is the first time that I am taking the floor on behalf of my delegation, allow me to convey my warmest greetings to you as well as my fellow delegates in the committee. I look forward to continuing my delegation's constructive engagement with the work of this committee in the coming new year.

2. We align with the statement delivered on behalf of G77 by Palestine.
3. We wish to express our gratitude to all the coordinators for their tireless efforts in ensuring a successful outcome of the session. We also take this opportunity to thank our negotiating partners for their constructive approach to negotiations, which were rather extended, laborious and at times unrelenting.
4. We hope that we have been successful in ensuring a sufficiently adequate level of resources for the programme budget 2020. We are pleased to reaffirm the importance that this committee attaches to ensuring smooth and effective functioning of the United Nations with a view to fulfill its role and efficiently discharge mandated programmes and activities.
5. The deliberations and proceedings of the fifth committee have always been carried out with the objective to take cognizance of administrative and budgetary aspects of the functioning of this organisation. Consensus building has been the cornerstone of the proceedings of this committee. It has therefore been disappointing to see the proceedings today sidetracked by issues which are basically political in nature.
6. We would like to commend the Secretariat for its remarkable role in steering these discussions and ensuring that this committee doesn't exceed its brief. My special thanks to the Chair, ASG Controller Mr. Ramanathan, the committee secretary and other officers for their efforts in this regard.
7. We welcome the Secretary General's commitment to make headway through a variety of challenges that the organisation faces, of which scarce availability of resources and their lopsided allocation is a substantial part. It is incumbent on the member states to ensure that there is balanced allocation of resources to ensure that the organisation effectively fulfills its developmental agenda.
8. I would like to close by congratulating the G77 Chair for an exceptional year of leadership. Their unwavering commitment and dedication to the spirit of positive engagement and consensus building has brought us all to a productive conclusion of the session. I wish to thank them for their

untiring efforts and resolve and extend a warm welcome to Guyana as the prospective Chair for next year.

I thank you.